(b) With the signing of the New Union Treaty in USSR expected for later this year, the mechanics of cooperation may require change to take into account the new constitutional provisions of the USSR and the enhanced role that the Republics are expected to play within the new framework.

Pak Prime Minister's Interview to 'News Week'

*130. KUMARI ALIA;

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's reaction to the Pak Prime Minister's reported 'News Week' interview that tension over the Kashmir issue could lead to Indo Pak war; and

(b) whether Government have taken up the issue with Pakistan Government and whether the matter was discussed during the talks with the Pak Foreign Secretary during his recent Delhi visit; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) During the visit of the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of Pakistan from 18—21 August, 1991, clarification was sought regarding the apparent discrepancy between the message of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, that the Government of Pakistan was sincerely interested in resolving all bilateral problems peacefully and through a serious and constructive dialogue, and the reference to war in the interview given by the Pakistani Prime Minister to the Newsweek magazine. The Special Envoy clarified that the interview as reported in the Newsweek magazine, did not fully convey what the PM of Pakistan had really intended, particularly his desire for a peaceful resolution of all differences between India and Pakistan.

Transport System in Delhi

*131. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the poor transport system in Delhi;

(b) what is the minimum requirement of buses in the D.T.C. fleet which can cater to the needs of Delhi public;

(c) what is the number of buses available with D.T.C.; (i) service-able (upto five years old; five-eight years old eight-ten years old) (ii) unserviceable but repairable; and (iii) non-repairable;

(d) the number of private buses running under D.T.C. operation and whether any survey has been conducted to find out their operational service worthiness: and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to put the Delhi Transport System in order for the benefit of the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by commuters of Delhi on account of constraints in the transport system.

(b) According to the DTC the total requirement of buses, to cater to the needs of the present commuters of Delhi, is estimated at 7950.

(c) As on 1-8-91 DTC was holding a fleet of 4375 buses, the details of which are as under:—

—Serviceable	
(i) Upto 5 years old	— 1452
(ii) 5 to 8 years old	— 1137
(iii) 8 to 10 years old	— 794
(iv) 10 years and above	— 799
(v) Unserviceable but repairable	— 160
—Non-repairable (Held up for scrap)	— 33
	4375

(d) There are 630 private buses operating under DTC as on 28-8-91. DTC have conducted a survey of these private buses.

(e) The following steps have been taken to improve the Delhi Transport System:—

(i) The Government have already recommended to the Delhi Administration to introduce a scheme of special stage carriage permits at a fare structure higher than that of DTC.

(ii) The Delhi Administration have also been advised to grant additional stage carriage permits to private operators.

(iii) The Delhi Administration had engaged M|s. RITES to take up a techno-economic feasibility study for the introduction of Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi. The Report of M|s. RITES was submitted to the Delhi Administration. The Government of India, in consultation with the Delhi Administration, have constituted a Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Delhi Administration to go into various aspects of the Mass Rapid Transit System. Further, a High-powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Lt. Governor of Delhi has been constituted and charged with the responsibility of going into the various aspects of Mass Rapid Transit System and also for the setting up of a single transport authority to cover all aspects of transportation, including operation, maintenance and regulation.

(iv) The Delhi Traffic Police have also taken a number of steps like introduction of new traffic circulation patterns to ease traffic congestion oneway roads introduction of computerised area traffic control system, etc. to improve traffic and transportation system in Delhi.

Help to Pak-trained Terrorists in Rajasthan

*132. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 30th July, 1991 regarding help being provided by the residents of the Rajasthan's border villages to Pakistani-trained terrorists; and

(b) if so, what remedial action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information furnished by the State Government the steps being taken to control the menace include coordinated action for collection of intelligence and intensified vigilance in the border areas, specially on possible hide-outs as well as places likely to be frequented by terrorists. Several cases have been registered in this regard under the relevant Acts.